

P 070231Z NOV 01  
FM AMEMBASSY ULAANBAATAR  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5692

C O N F I D E N T I A L ULAANBAATAR 001018

CONFIDENTIAL

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/02/2021  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [AF](#) [MG](#)  
SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN'S FUTURE - NEXT STEPS

REF: STATE 192153

CLASSIFIED BY POLITICAL SECTION CHIEF DEL JUNKER FOR  
REASONS: 1.5 (B) AND (D).

¶1. (U) ON NOVEMBER 6, WE REVIEWED POINTS CONTAINED IN  
REFTEL WITH DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER S. BATBOLD. HE STATED  
HE UNDERSTOOD THE GOALS OF THE U. S. POLICY. HE ADDED THA  
HE APPRECIATED THE INFORMATION PROVIDED AND OUR REQUEST FO  
COMMENT BUT WOULD DEFER COMMENT FOR THE MOMENT.

¶2. (C) BATBOLD AND A MEMBER OF HIS STAFF POSED QUESTIONS  
ON THREE POINTS: (1) DOES THE POLICY DISTINGUISH BETWEEN  
RADICAL AND MODERATE ELEMENTS OF THE TALIBAN?; (2) WILL TH  
NORTHERN ALLIANCE BE WILLING TO SHARE POWER IF IT OCCUPIES  
KABUL BEFORE A COALITION IS ORGANIZED?; AND, (3) IS THE  
HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE, PARTICULARLY THAT BEING AIR-  
DROPPED BY THE U. S., REACHING THE REFUGEES OR IS IT BEING  
INTERCEPTED BY TALIBAN ELEMENTS? WE WERE ABLE TO RESPOND  
TO THE QUESTIONS DRAWING ON THE POINTS IN REFTEL AND ON TH  
PUBLIC DIPLOMACY CABLES.

¶3. (C) COMMENT: BATBOLD'S NON-COMMITTAL RESPONSE IS DUE  
TO THE FACT THAT BOTH THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND THE PRIME  
MINISTER ARE OUT OF THE COUNTRY. WE EXPECT THE GOVERNMENT  
OF MONGOLIA TO SUPPORT U. S. POLICY IN THIS MATTER.

DINGER